

# VIRGINIA'S LIBRARY ONE OF STATES MOST VALUABLE ASSETS: ITS BEGINNING

The year 1907, which has clearly established the right of Virginia to many valuable historic assets, has made one of her richest possessions, her library, a centre of lively interest.

Miss Blair's Richmond Calendar informs her reader that the "State Library" was formed January 23, 1828, with colonial and other collections as a nucleus.

The legislative enactment founding the library first became active on February 11, 1828, when the following law was passed:

"Be it enacted by the General Assembly: That the Executive of this Commonwealth be, and they are hereby required, so soon as may be after the passage of this act, to select within the Capitol, a suitable room for the location of the public library; provided the same be not now in the occupation of any public officer of the Commonwealth; which room they are hereby authorized and required to fit up and prepare for the purpose aforesaid, the expense whereof shall be defrayed out of any money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated.

"He it further enacted: That it shall be the duty of the Executive, after the preparation of the room aforesaid, to cause all books now in their possession belonging to the public library, or which may hereafter be procured for the same, to be deposited therein, under the superintendence and preservation of the clerk of the executive council, who shall for the present act as officer as public librarian, and he is allowed for his services a yearly salary at the discretion of the Executive."

**Its Modest Beginning.**

The committee appointed by the Governor under this act, on March 25, 1828, selected the room in the southeast corner of the Capitol, on the same floor with the council chamber. The collection of books, which up to this time had been kept in the council chamber, was removed to this room, and library service, with rules as to length of hours, the duties of the librarian, and the use of the books, was formally inaugurated.

Until the completion of the new State Library building in 1895, this room was the home of the State Library, and those who remember its big open fireplace, its delightful atmosphere, its deep window seats and its charming outlook, sigh to think that increase of books and the imperative need for more space to render these books available, could ever have brought about the abolition of anything so picturesque and so intimately associated with the history of the State.

During the War Between the States, John Reuben Thompson, one of the war poets of Virginia, author of many imperishable and beautiful lyrics, was State Librarian. Among his successors has been the late, well-remembered George W. B. Scott, Charles Polk and W. W. Scott.

**How Douse Flame Work.**

The old library served a splendid purpose and did a fine work. The building in which it was situated was the scene of many of the most memorable gatherings held on the soil of Virginia.

Lafayette visited this library in 1824, when he came to visit Richmond and look at the statue of Washington in the rotunda of the Capitol building. One can imagine what a distinguished company looked into the library volumes for reference and information during the convention after speaking to an immense crowd from the Capitol portico, he finally won the hearts of the fair-dames of the city when he talked over at the "Log Cabin." One picture the quick step and comprehensive glance of William



Corner of old library, in Capitol. Taken when it was to be remodeled. Only view taken of the old library.

C. Preston, of South Carolina, another visitor during the same year to the library.

One wonders what Charles Dickens thought as he sat beside the library hearthstone early in the year 1842, and what President Zachary Taylor had to say when he came to the laying of the Washington Monument cornerstone, February 22, 1850.

**Echoed Jenny Lind's Voice.**

Jenny Lind sang at the Richmond Theatre the next autumn, and the library was brightened by her graceful presence and echoed the tones of her sweet voice. Thackeray, the great English novelist, came the next year, and one is sure that he must have had the pleasant surroundings of the library in mind when he wrote that he was delighted with Richmond, "a comfortable, friendly, cozy little town—the picturesqueness he had seen in America."

When King Edward VII, as Prince of Wales, made his memorable visit to Richmond on April 12, 1860, it is recorded of him that after he attended service at St. Paul's Church, he was shown the Capitol. Of course, that means that he, too, stood within the precincts of the library.

In 1882, on January 15th, the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise, his wife, daughter of Queen Victoria of England, passed through Richmond on their way from Canada to the West Indies, and the Marquis spent a short time at the library.

Charles Dudley Warner expressed pleasure over his recollections of it in 1890, and Chief Justice Fuller in 1891 set the seal of his approval upon it.

**New and Enlarged Library.**

In 1895, the new Library Building was completed and the books were removed there. Since then the Capitol building has been remodeled and its interior plan of construction has changed so that the old library is now a thing of the past, yielding to an overwhelming need in the line of growth and expansion.

Formerly, the library was supervised

by one man and an assistant, but the working force, enlarged as it has been to keep pace with the growth and greater educational needs of State and city, has justified the wisdom of Virginia lawmakers. Under the new State Constitution, the present library board, with one exception, was appointed July 1, 1903. The members of the board then were Armistead C. Gordon, of Staunton, Va., chairman; J. A. C. Chandler and S. S. P. Patterson, of Richmond; John W. Fleishburn, of Charlottesville; and Theodore S. Garnett, of Norfolk, Va. Dr. Chandler was succeeded by Charles V. Meredith, who will soon be succeeded by Edmund Pendleton. No other changes on the board have occurred.

On November 2, 1903, Mr. W. W. Scott, having resigned as State Librarian to take supervision of the law library of the Supreme Court, Mr. John Pendleton Kennedy was elected Librarian, and has associated with him in the management of the library Mr. Edward S. Evans, Mrs. E. C. Minor, Dr. H. C. Eckenrode, Mr. F. B. Beverly and a number of assistants in the several departments.

Under this able and efficient force and by means of an appropriation wisely made by the General Assembly of Virginia, one of the most valuable of the State's assets has been made so available that it is now the daily help and the unfailing source of information sought by teachers, students and all classes of technical, literary and historical seekers after what they need along their multifarious lines of occupation.

The great wealth of the library in archives, books of reference and rare volumes, pertaining to early State colonization has never before been correctly apprehended or appreciated, because, until the Legislature generously gave the money which, under the administration of the Librarian and the present library force, has been judiciously expended in the purchase of new library furniture and book-cases, and in the entire rearrangement of the archives and other valuable books, such convenience and access-

ibility as at present exists, could never have been possible.

**Great Educational Influence.**

The Legislature never legalized expenditure for State purposes that has had a happier or more far-reaching educational influence, the publication of the Journals of the Virginia House of Burgesses, from 1680 to 1776 and from March 13, 1776, to May 6, 1776, being of inestimable value, covering, as they do, a period of the greatest historic importance.

The reading-room of the library is now in charge of Mrs. E. C. Minor, of this city, who renders it extremely pleasant by her ready courtesy and willingness to meet the desires and needs of visitors and by the many improvements she has introduced. Records are kept by her of the attendance in the reading-room and the number of books used. Through her a card system has been inaugurated by which a question may be asked through the telephone, mail, or at the desk, and answered by either of these methods, as the questioner prefers.

A bulletin containing items in regard to the most recent book accessions and other news of interest has been also successfully and profitably introduced into the reading-room, among the other attractions of which are the "strangers' table," where strangers find much that they desire to know about Richmond, and college students and references lists and special book collections kept with reference to debate subjects and other needs most helpful.

At present the library seems on the eve of a change in regard to its management. With a sense of all that has been accomplished by means which the Legislature has fostered the growth of the library since its founding in 1823, has supplied, it is believed that the question before the board at its July meeting will be not so much the need for more books, but the need for more efficient management. The library remains, and its good work and its influence are matters of pride and prime importance to every right-feeling man and woman in the Old Dominion.

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### MANY WILL ATTEND FROM THIS CITY

Large Delegation of Richmonders to Go to Brotherhood of St. Andrew Convention.

SESSION IN WASHINGTON

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, an organization of laymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, will hold its convention in Washington, D. C., this year, September 25th to 29th. It is a custom of the organization to hold an international gathering every ten years, the last one having been held in Buffalo in 1897. The convention of the organization this year, it is reported, will be the largest held, and possibly the largest gathering of the laymen of any one religious body ever assembled.

One of the principal features of the Washington convention will be an immense open-air mass-meeting, to be held on Sunday afternoon, September 29th, at Mt. St. Alban, on the inclosure of the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, at which the address will be delivered by the Right Rev. A. F. Winington-Ingram, Lord Bishop of London. The location at which this meeting will be held affords a magnificent view of the city and the Potomac River, and also the States of Maryland and Virginia.

The General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which is held every three years, will assemble at Richmond on Wednesday, October 5th. At this convention will be celebrated the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of the church at Jamestown, and it is said that a large majority of the bishops, clergymen and laymen as delegates to the General Convention will attend the Brotherhood convention at Washington en route to Richmond.

A large delegation of the brotherhood men of Richmond and vicinity will attend this convention, and in all probability will charter a special car. The railway companies will make a special rate. It is hoped that if any of the brotherhood men in Richmond find it impossible to get away from their business during the entire time of the convention, they will take advantage of the special rate on Saturday afternoon, September 28th, and attend the meetings on Sunday night, the great mass-meeting on Sunday afternoon. It is worth going a long distance to be present at these meetings.

**TERRIFIC STORMS DO GREAT DAMAGE**

TULSA, I. T., June 23.—A violent storm swept over part of Indian Territory early to-day, causing damage to property estimated at nearly half a million dollars. Lightning struck oil tanks all over the mid-continent field. In Glenn Pool, near Tulsa, a 55,000-barrel tank of the Oklahoma and Gas Company, and a 100,000-barrel tank of the Victor Oil and Gas Company, and a dozen other small tanks were struck by lightning and are still burning fiercely.

At Cooley Bluff, the Standard Oil Company's tank farm was almost destroyed. Reports from Comona, Ocelotela, Nowata and other points tell of heavy damage by wind, but of no loss of life.

**HOUSED FROM MACEDONIA; MURDERED IN AMERICA.**

COLUMBUS, O., June 23.—The body of a man, identified as a Macedonian, was found in a field, to which the police believe the man was lured and murdered, probably as the result of a feud. Papers found on the body indicate that Stjepo had left Macedonia because he had been housed.

**Large Territory Devastated.**

KANSAS CITY, MO., June 23.—Severe storms in Kansas last night injured at least three persons, unroofed and demolished farmhouses, uprooted trees and did great damage to crops.

At St. John eight square miles were devastated, a dozen or more houses being demolished.

**General W. W. Duffield.**

WASHINGTON, June 23.—General William W. Duffield, who for a number of years was superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, died here yesterday.

**BOAT CAPSIZED AND FOUR WERE DROWNED.**

MUSKOGEE, MICH., June 23.—Ola Hamme, Ola Peterson, Lydia Olin and Anna Johnson, all residents of this city, were drowned in Muskogee Lake this afternoon. The quartet hired a row boat for a pleasure trip on the lake, and it was capsized.

### PRESIDENT SMALL SAYS WIRE STRIKE WILL GROW

Telegraph Companies in Far West Are Badly Crippled.

URGES FEDERAL OWNERSHIP

SAN FRANCISCO, June 23.—Everything was quiet in the telegraph strike to-day. Samuel Small, president of the Commercial Telegraphers Union, said:

"The real fight will begin on Monday, when the early week rush of business is on. The out-of-town managers and chief operators who can be induced to take the places of the strikers will have arrived in the city by Monday or Tuesday, but should they go to work the companies, with the additional force will be in a worse predicament than they were on Friday and Saturday, days on which telegraph business is light. Our reports from various points show that the telegraph strike is not likely to be cured by the use of the 'straw men' who are being sent to take the place of the strikers. Things will probably remain chaotic for a few days to come. Then telegraphers will begin to drift in from different outside points, and no trouble will be experienced in getting the places vacant. It will not take the union operators long to realize the mistake they have made by striking, and they will come back to us."

**Western Union Is Hopeful.**

A. H. May, district superintendent of the Western Union, said:

"We have about a third of our entire force of operators at work, and are able to handle the business with receiving with comparative expedition. Of course, all business is assumed subject to indefinite delay, but thus far we have been able to piece things out remarkably well. The Western Union Company does not intend to give in. Strikes of telegraphers generally do. Things will probably remain chaotic for a few days to come. Then telegraphers will begin to drift in from different outside points, and no trouble will be experienced in getting the places vacant. It will not take the union operators long to realize the mistake they have made by striking, and they will come back to us."

**Power With Operators.**

Telegraphers of this country have it within their power to bring the telegraph companies to terms or to force governmental ownership of the telegraphs.

"None is so familiar with the inside workings of the telegraph system of this country as the operator, and none is so loyal to the interests of his employer. For many years we have borne with patience the many abuses existing in the service. Things have changed since the Commercial Telegraphers' Union became a power in the trade union movement.

### SALVATION ARMY HOLDS BIG RALLY AT RESERVOIR PARK

The Salvation Army held the first of its summer rallies at Idlewood yesterday afternoon, the service being attended by a large number of men, women and children. Seats were arranged in the shade of some great trees, the speakers using the platform of the open-air theatre. Eight or nine hundred people occupied the benches in front, while a large number of others lay on the grass to either side. Perfect order was maintained, and the great majority of those present seemed to be paying attention to the addresses. Many joined in the singing of several familiar hymns.

Mr. John L. Williams presided over the meeting. On the platform were Captain and Mrs. Fowler, Captain and Mrs. Smith, Major Mary E. Barker, and Adjutant Cora, of the Salvation Army force, and several Richmond gentlemen, including Mr. Howard Swineford, Hon. J. Taylor Ellyson, and Secretary L. Thomas, of the Railroad Y. M. C. A.

After the singing of "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" in which the officers of the Salvation Army accompanied the

chorus with guitars and accordion, Mr. John L. Williams made brief opening remarks on the work of the Salvation Army, paying a high tribute to the devotion of its officers and the tasks assigned to them. The principal address of the evening was made by Major Mary E. Barker, of the Salvation Army, a preacher of simplicity and force. Major Barker took as her subject the story of the rich young ruler, and in a clear voice that was heard throughout the audience, told in simple language the story of the young man with great possessions. The speaker drew a number of striking lessons from the story, and in closing used several telling illustrations.

Several thousand people visited Idlewood yesterday afternoon, the breeze across the lake attracting many ladies and children from the hot city. The house on the lake were doing a rushing business, as were the soda-water and ice-cream stands, many of the people at the Salvation Army meeting making a rush for the soda fountains on adjournment.

### Forecast for the Week.

Thousands of students will say their farewell to colleges throughout the country this week. Monday will be class day at Yale, Tuesday at Harvard, Wednesday at Stanford, and Thursday at the University of California. The week will be a busy one for the students, as they prepare to leave for their summer homes or for their new careers.

The American Wine Growers' Association will meet at Hammondsport, N. Y., Tuesday.

The wine growers' situation in Southern France is expected to assume a more peaceful phase this week as

the principal grievances of the wine growers will be removed by the passage of the Chamber of Deputies last week. The government believes that it will be in a position to prevent further outbreaks or sugaring the wine.

Oxford University will confer a number of honorary degrees on distinguished persons on June 24th, when Lord Curzon, of Kedleston, will be publicly installed as chancellor of the university. Among the recipients of honors will be Mark Twain, Rudyard Kipling, Premier Campbell-Bannerman, Ambassador Field, Prince Arthur of Connaught, Auguste Rodin and Admiral Lord Charles Boscawen.

**TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY.**

**FIVE DOLLAR REWARD WILL BE PAID** for information as to the whereabouts of ELMER BROWN (colored), son of Belinda Brown, who ran away from his home in Hanover county on June 12th. Reply to BELINDA BROWN, 605 Floyd Avenue.

### FATAL WRECK ON NEW YORK CENTRAL

Freight and Passenger Trains Collide, Head-on—Four Dead.

**WAS ROUNDING SHARP CURVE**

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 23.—Four persons are known to have been killed, three more are thought to be dead, and eight were badly injured in a wreck about 11 o'clock to-night at Mitchell's Farm, about a mile east of Pittsford, on the Auburn Branch of the New York Central Railroad. The train was No. 230, going east. It met a freight head-on.

It was in turning a sharp curve, near Pittsford, that the two trains came together. The smoker of the passenger train, in which there were fifteen persons, was telescoped by the baggage car, with the result that four persons were killed instantly, eight badly injured, and it is thought three others hurt so seriously that they may not live.

To the consternation of the injured and helpless, fire broke out in the wreckage, but it was quickly extinguished. A relief train was sent out from this city.

### STOP EVERYTHING ON SUNDAY THERE

Street Car Conductors, Peanut Vendors, Telephone Operators and Others Arrested.

WASHINGTON, June 23.—Mayor Garrett and Marshal Collins, of Glen Echo, a suburb of this city, arrested about ninety people to-day and to-night, on the charge of violating the Sunday law. The arrests included street car conductors, peanut vendors, a telephone operator, and other Sunday workers. Garrett and Collins are the officials whose numerous arrests of automobilists for exceeding the speed limits have created widespread interest.

**AUTO STOLEN**

Suitable reward will be paid for the apprehension of Captain Larry O'Hagan, late of the British Army, who is charged with stealing a valuable Graysville automobile from the headquarters of the affair will be found in "He Who Stole and Rode Away," C. N. and A. M. Williamson's novel, complete in the July Dispatch.

### TO REVIVE WAR-TIME SONGS AND AID NEEDY VETERANS

Commander-in-Chief of New Confederate Organization Issues First General Orders Defining Objects of Association.

The action of the recent Confederate Reunion in authorizing the formation of Confederate choirs, with a definite charter, is producing its fruit. Mrs. J. Grif Edwards, of Portsmouth, Va., who has been selected as general and commander-in-chief of the organization, has published her general orders No. 1, providing for a constitution for the United Confederate Choirs of America.

The Dixie girls, whose Confederate suits attracted much attention on the streets of Richmond during the reunion, have become encouraged to extend their organization, and inquiries are coming from all parts of the South with regard to the formation of choirs, as provided by the recent Confederate Reunion.

A federation was organized in Richmond on June 1st, following the action of the convention, and the name of the organization was determined upon as the "United Confederate Choirs of America," with the motto, "Song forbids glorious deeds to die."

Mrs. Edwards, who is the pioneer in the formation of Dixie choirs, and who has been called the "Queen of the Dixie Girls," makes her headquarters at her home, 421 London Street, Portsmouth, where she is already receiving a large amount of correspondence with regard to the formation of choirs.

The constitution, which has just been promulgated, provides that the objects of the association shall be to entertain, historical, social and memorial; to aid the Confederate veterans by vocal entertainments and amusements for the encouragement of camp work; to revive the old-time war songs, which cheered them around the camp fires; to aid the needy Confederate heroes and assist at the services in memory of the dead.

The clause of the constitution relating to membership provides that members shall be selected by the commanding officer for vocal qualifications, good character and interest in the objects of the association, and a majority of each choir must be ladies. There is no provision, however, that any member of the choir shall be in any way related to the Confederate cause or descended from a Confederate soldier. Provision is made that on the unanimous vote of the association, distinguished associates may be made honorary members, and may be entitled to wear the badge of the association.

The annual meeting of the "United Confederate Choirs of America" will be held at the time and place of the annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans.

Mrs. Edwards, the commander-in-chief, has appointed Miss Bessie Ridley, of Portsmouth, as her adjutant.

general, and Miss Ridley will conduct the correspondence with those desiring to form Confederate choirs.

**PREMIER WILL BE FORCED TO RESIGN**

Movement Against Franco Has Now Spread Over Entire Country.

MADRID, June 23.—Definite news from Portugal is of the most meagre character, owing to the censorship, but it has been established that no further rioting has occurred since Wednesday. The latest word from Lisbon seems to indicate that Premier Franco will resign. The movement against him has now spread over the whole country, and it is reported that he will be succeeded by a coalition government headed by the Independent Wilhelms.

The newspapers Paz and Mundo have been suspended, and several political clubs closed. Premier Franco's house is surrounded by a strong guard of police.

**SUNDAY WORK AT THE HAGUE**

General Horace Porter Discussed Matters Affecting the United States.

THE HAGUE, June 23.—The American delegates to the peace conference, although they did not hold a general meeting, spent the whole Sunday discussing the proposition of the United States relating to the contractual pecuniary debts, while General Horace Porter talked over the matter of the projected doctrine with the leading European plenipotentiaries. General Porter gained the impression that neither Great Britain, France, Germany nor Russia would oppose it. He will submit the result of his conversations to the American delegation at a meeting on Monday afternoon for a definite draft of the propositions, which in yesterday's written communication to the second committee were merely outlined. European support of the American doctrine will remove the opposition of some of the South American countries.

### SOUTHERN PRODUCTS IN ASIATIC TURKEY

Excellent Market There for Goods if Exporters Make Effort.

**RAW COTTON LEADING ALL**

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 23.—Asiatic Turkey is an excellent market for Southern products, according to the report prepared on trade conditions there by Charles M. Pepper, the special agent of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

The report, after giving general information in regard to the geographical relation of the Asiatic provinces, and their products and imports, takes up the question of steamship service. Although the special agents' investigations into trade conditions were limited to Asiatic Turkey and therefore the ports of the Levant, the question of transportation facilities includes the Mediterranean. Mr. Pepper says that the leading imports from the South into the Mediterranean countries and the Levant are raw cotton, rosin, phosphates, pitch, pine, tobacco, sponges and cotton fabrics. Some of the steamship companies, particularly those with headquarters in the Adriatic, have sought to develop a direct trade with the Southern ports.

In their view the saving of railway freights would be considerable if they received the cotton and other products at the ports nearest where the crops are raised. Notwithstanding that a direct service is maintained with one or two of the Southern ports, there is the encouragement which they hoped in the way of assured cargoes at definite dates. This is especially noticeable since Austria and Italy are increasing their importations of raw cotton and the inducement for direct communication are growing. At some seasons the shipments of agricultural machinery from Southern ports to the Levant and the Black Sea are large.

Attention is directed in the report to immigration from Syria and other Mediterranean countries. The value of immigration in stimulating commerce is recognized by the steamship companies, and it is noted that owing to the large number who return to their native countries for temporary visits, a demand is created for American products.

**BOAT CAPSIZED AND FOUR WERE DROWNED.**

MUSKOGEE, MICH., June 23.—Ola Hamme, Ola Peterson, Lydia Olin and Anna Johnson, all residents of this city, were drowned in Muskogee Lake this afternoon. The quartet hired a row boat for a pleasure trip on the lake, and it was capsized.